IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for translating a source language classification system into at least one target language, wherein said <u>source language</u> classification system classifies a communication into one of a plurality of predefined categories, comprising:

obtaining a sample response repository in said source language, wherein said sample response repository comprises a plurality of prior communications each having a classification;

applying a mechanical translation process to said sample response repository to generate a translated response repository; and

~~processing said translated response repository to generate~~ <u>generating</u> a natural language understanding module <u>from said translated response repository, wherein said natural language understanding module</u> ~~that can classify~~ <u>classifies</u> a communication in said target language.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said natural language understanding process employs a statistical method.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said natural language understanding process employs a rule-base.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said rule-base defines one or more classification rules that determine how communications are classified.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of applying a mechanical translation process to said rule-base to generate a rule-base in said target language.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said communication is a spoken utterance and wherein said method further comprises the step of applying a speech recognition statistical model compilation process to the translated target language response repository to generate a speech recognition module in the target language.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of applying a speech recognizer to said spoken utterance to convert said spoken utterance to text.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said classification system routes said communication to one of a plurality of predefined destinations.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of predefined categories are a plurality of subject areas

10.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus for translating a source language classification system into at least one target language, wherein said source language classification system classifies an utterance into one of a plurality of predefined categories, comprising:

          a memory; and

          at least one processor, coupled to the memory, operative to:

          obtain a sample response repository in said source language, wherein said sample response repository comprises a plurality of prior communications each having a classification;

          apply a mechanical translation process to said sample response repository to generate a translated response repository; and

          processing said translated response repository to generate a natural language understanding module from said translated response repository, wherein said natural language understanding module that can classify classifies a communication in said target language.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said natural language understanding process employs a statistical method.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said natural language understanding process employs a rule-base.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said rule-base defines one or more classification rules that determine how communications are classified.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, further comprising the step of applying a mechanical translation process to said rule-base to generate a rule-base in said target language.

15 (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said communication is a spoken utterance and wherein said processor is further configured to apply a speech recognition statistical model compilation process to the translated target language response repository to generate a speech recognition module in the target language.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said processor is further configured to apply a speech recognizer to said spoken utterance to convert said spoken utterance to text.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said classification system routes said communication to one of a plurality of predefined destinations.

18 (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein said plurality of predefined categories are a plurality of subject areas.

19. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture for translating a source language classification system into at least one target language, wherein said source language classification system classifies an utterance into one of a plurality of predefined

categories, comprising a machine readable storage medium containing one or more programs which when executed implement the steps of:

obtain obtaininga sample response repository in said source language, wherein said sample response repository comprises a plurality of prior communications each having a classification;

apply applying a mechanical translation process to said sample response repository to generate a translated response repository; and

process said translated response repository to generate generating a natural language understanding module from said translated response repository, wherein said natural language understanding module that can classify classifies a communication in said target language.

20. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein said classification system routes said communication to one of a plurality of predefined destinations.

21. (Original) The article of manufacture of claim 19, wherein said plurality of predefined categories are a plurality of subject areas.